



## POOL SAFETY

### *SUPERVISION IS KEY*

- Always designate one responsible adult to give 100% of their attention to the children in and around the water, even if lifeguards are present.
- No talking on phone, reading, or talking to others.
- Fence the pool area and use self-closing locking gate. Make sure children can't go over, under or through the fence.
- Alarm doors leading to pool should chime if someone is in pool area.
- Turn off waterfalls and water features when children are in the pool.
- Remove toys from pool area after swimming and store away from pool.
- Only use phone in event of 911 emergency.
- Know the address of the pool.

**“Children Drown In Silence”**



## EDUCATION

### *Children must have constant “eyes-on” supervision.*

- Teach children to swim and learn to swim well
- Take a CPR and First Aid class. Learn adult, child and infant CPR and keep skills updated.
- Parents must vigilantly watch their children and family gatherings or parties
- If a child is missing, look in the pool or spa first before looking anywhere else.
- Don't use floating chlorine dispensers and thermometers that look like toys.
- Store all chemicals out of reach of children
- Be careful with doggy doors leading to pool area that a child could get through.

## SUN PROTECTION

*Apply minimum SPF 15 waterproof sunscreen 30 minutes before going out into the sun. Reapply every 45 minutes. Sun rays are strongest between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. Wear hat and sunglasses.*

**“Respect the Water”**



## BATHTUB SAFETY

### *Bathtub drownings are second only to pool drownings in and around the home.*

- Never leave a child unattended in bathtub.
- Supervise from beginning to end of bath.
- Get what you need before you start.
- If you need to leave, drain tub and take child with you.
- Never leave child in tub under supervision of another child.
- Check water temperature first.
- Use nonslip bath mats and nonslip strips on bottom of bathtub.
- Never keep electrical appliances near water. Hair dryers and charging cell phones can cause electrocutions.
- Baby seats are a bathing aid, not a safety device.
- Phone should be used in bathroom only for calling 911 in case of emergency.
- Never allow bath toys that are small enough to choke on.

**“Children Drown In Silence”**



## HOT TUB SAFETY

### *Hot Tubs are NOT FOR YOUNG CHILDREN.*

- Keep water temperature below 100 degrees.
- Check water before entering warm water.
- Limit time to under 10 minutes.
- Keep jets and bubbles off.
- Bubbles reduce visibility.
- Hot Tub Controls should not be manipulated by children.
- Covers and locks should be secured with hard top cover and locking latch when not in use.
- Do not allow children to play or swim near drains or suction outlets in pool and spas.
- Entrapments can pull hair, limbs or clothing.
- Install anti-entrapment VGB compliant safety drain covers.
- Inspect regularly.

**“Respect the Water”**

## BOAT/LAKE SAFETY

*Everyone in the boat should be wearing a properly fitting US Coast Guard approved personal flotation device.*

- Never allow children to ride in front or back of boat because they could fall out.
- Children should be seated in middle of boat.
- Account for everyone on board before starting engine.
- Keep a safety rope/ safety ring in boat or on dock.

## DOCK SAFETY

- Install alarm and ground fault circuit interrupter GFCI on boat dock.
- Inspect after power failure.
- Electric currents can travel through water causing electric shock drowning.
- Never ignore a dog barking on a dock.



## FLASH FLOOD FACTS

- "Turn Around Don't Drown" Just six inches of moving or rushing water can knock over a full grown man.
- Two feet of rushing water can carry away most vehicles, including trucks and SUVs.
- Rising water can reach above a vehicle door in less than a minute.
- It takes just twelve inches of flowing water to carry away a small car.
- More than half of the deaths from flooding each year occur in vehicles.

## FLASH FLOOD TIPS

- Don't drive, walk, swim or play in flooded streets.
- Use safer, alternate routes.
- Never drive around barricades.
- Avoid streets where curbs are barely visible.
- Don't allow children to play in canals, ditches or ponds-even when dry.
- Use sandbags to protect your home or business if you know it floods
- Be aware of changing weather conditions.
- Fast-moving water can fill streets within seconds. which may cause additional dangers of debris and contamination from trash.
- Never attempt a rescue. Call 9-1-1 instead.

**"WHEN THUNDER ROARS, GO INDOORS"**  
*Thunder...is a result of lightning.*

- Do not seek shelter under trees.
- A bus or car can provide shelter if no building is available.
- Stop all outdoor activities.
- Wait 30 minutes after storm to resume activities.

**"TURN AROUND. DON'T DROWN."**

The Drowning Prevention Coalition of El Paso was formed in 2010 through the efforts of Laura and Eddie Castle who lost their son, Christian, to drowning in 2007. Thirty-one different community organizations, groups and agencies have come together as one to build a culture of water safety in the El Paso area. (Two countries, three states, and several cities)



## Mission Statement

To promote, develop and support training and community education efforts that prevent drowning, non-fatal drowning and other water related incidents in El Paso County and the surrounding areas.

**Respect the Water.  
Children Drown in  
Silence.**

Drowning is leading cause of accidental death for Texas children under age five.



Drowning Prevention Coalition Of El Paso  
[www.dpcelpaso.org](http://www.dpcelpaso.org)

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Christian Castle